

March 30, 2007

House Natural Resources Committee  
Helena, MT

I support SB452 as essential legislation that allows Montanans to discuss the immediate and future status of working lands in their communities. Community discussion can lead to community driven action with benefits to the entire state.

SB452 will enhance current efforts by various organizations supporting focused and efficient results that benefit all working lands.

On a personal scale, my house mortgage is paid with timber dollars. My great-grandfather worked some of the first log-drives on the Blackfoot River – floating logs more than a century ago to the same site where my husband works for Stimson Lumber. My great-great grandparents came to Montana for the agricultural opportunities. Six generations later, my daughter is a Forest Management student at UM and wants to work in her state.

Plainly stated, we risk losing our forest and ag opportunities. With SB452 we will maintain our Montana heritage of agriculture and timber. This heritage is not a birthright – it is a responsibility. Montanans want to work together right now to deliver this legacy to future Montanans and their communities.

Please support SB452.

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